(7) There is some difficulty during low tides. Action is being taken to remove the difficulty.

(8) Yes.

Water service connections in Ernakulam.

504. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether a deputation of the Ernakulam Municipal Council waited upon the Diwan in connection with the refusal of the Public Works Department to effect water service connections to houses and laying of pipes in streets after receiving money for the same ;

(2) when did they so wait, and was not the deputation assured of a favourable disposal of the question ;

(3) has any order been issued in the matter and if not, what is the reason for the delay ;

(4) did the deputationists request the Government to issue such orders as will enable the townsmen of Eanakulam to enjoy the benefits of the available water supply equally and equitably irrespective of the quantity, large or small, that the Public Works Department may be able to supply ; if they did, what prevents the Government in granting the request ;

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) The meeting was on November 22, 1928.

The delegates explained the situation to the Diwan and they were assured that the Government would sympathetically consider the question after giving due regard to the points raised by them.

(3) No. The matter is under consideration.

(4) The answer to the forepart of the question is in the affirmative.

The Government is considering the question whether the suggestions brought forward by them will serve the best interests of all concerned.

Ernakulam Motor Service.

505. Mr. P Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) how many motor services are there working now with their termination at Kottayam after the arrival of each of the trains in Ernakulam;

(2) what is the order in which they are running ;

(3) what are the names of the permit holders of such services ;

(4) for how long has the first-starter been enjoying the privilege of starting first after each of the trains ;

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(5) is it not a fact that the first starter has certain decided advantages over those starting sometime after ;

(6) has the Commissioner of Police been approached with requests to make the advantages available to others also at least by turns ; if so, were any requests granted ;

(7) was there any special reason for allowing the privileges to be enjoyed by one only for so long a time ;

(8) are all or any of the proprietors Cochinites ; if any, who ;

(9) has he or they applied for change of timings ;

(10) has he or they alleged specific reasons for the request, and if so, what are the reasons stated ;

(11) is it a fact that the same time, viz., 2-5 p. m. was given to two services to start from the Ernakulam Station ;

(12) if it is a fact, was the anomaly removed by giving permission to the new-comer to start first and relegating the older service to start still later; is there any special reason for this preference ;

(13) was there a conference of the bus-owners of the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk at Ernakulam on 30th Kanni 1104 ;

(14) did not the prevailing practice of capturing passengers for their respective vehicles form a ground of serious complaint by many of those assembled at the conference ;

(15) does not the same practice prevail at the boat jetties also ;

(16) were any steps taken to prevent this nuisance to the passengers ; if so, what are the steps taken and with what result ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon. (1) Three.

(2) One service gets the first starting after the arrival of a train for a month. Next month the other service gets the first chance. A third service which attends only the after-noon train gets the 2nd starting from the station.

(3) Excelsior Motor Service, Jos. Bros. Motor Service and Grace Motor Service.

(4) No answer is necessary in view of the information given against (2).

(5) No answer is necessary.

(6) Yes ; and it has been granted.

(7) No answer is necessary.

(8) None.

(9) and (10). No answer is necessary.

(11) Yes, but the traffic Head Constable has instructions to allow one bus to go first and the next after 5 minutes.

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(12) Yes. Because the new-comer had only one bus and one trip. This bus will be given the last turn next month.

(13) Yes.

(14) No. But some said about such practice going on.

(15) Yes; on some occasions.

(16) Yes; the policeman on duty at the place has been given clear instructions and the officers are required to visit the places occasionally and check the misdoings, if any.

Grant of special licenses for motor bus service.

506. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) what is the principle followed by the Commissioner of Police in granting special licenses to motor buses plying for hire;

(2) who all have power to grant such licenses;

(3) were any special licenses given to buses to run between Trichur and Thayamkulangara on *Pooyam* day in this month;

(4) if the answer to question (3) is in the affirmative, (a) the number of such licenses granted, and (b) the hour from which they were issued;

(5) is it not a fact that many bus-owners applied orally to the Trichur Station authorities to grant them special licenses on that day;

(6) were not such applicants told that they had orders from the Commissioner of Police not to issue such licenses

(7) had the Commissioner of Police issued orders not to issue special licenses for *Pooyam*;

(8) if no such licenses were given on the *Pooyam* day, what are the reasons for same;

(9) is it not a fact that special licenses were given to buses in the last year for *Pooyam*;

(10) what is the usual rate charged by bus-owners from Trichur to Thayamkulangara;

(11) what was the rate charged on the last *Pooyam* day;

(12) is it not a fact that about 5 to 10 thousand people congregate in Thayamkulangara on the *Pooyam* day;

(13) was there not an unusually big rush of passengers in the Trichur Bus Stand on the *Pooyam* day:

(14) did not many of them return for want of space in the buses;

(15) were any buses charged for overloading on that day?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(1) The question is not clear.

(2) All the Station House Officers are empowered to grant special permits for particular trips, wherever there is not suffi-

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